

House File 599 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 599
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 144)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the use of a college readiness assessment
2 as a condition of graduation and for payment of school
3 foundation aid funding to community colleges and regents
4 universities on behalf of certain students who attain a
5 minimum acceptable score on the assessment.
6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 31. Adopt rules requiring school districts
4 to administer to secondary students at least annually,
5 beginning not later than the 2014-2015 school year, a college
6 readiness assessment which a student shall successfully pass
7 as a condition of graduation. The rules shall provide for
8 alternative pathways to graduation and for a timeline for the
9 administration of the assessment, and shall require school
10 districts to administer the assessment to secondary school
11 students, including, if a student and the student's parent
12 or guardian submit a written request to a school district,
13 students attending accredited nonpublic schools located within
14 the school district and students receiving competent private
15 instruction pursuant to chapter 299A. A school district may
16 charge a student a fee which shall not exceed the actual cost
17 of the assessment. The board shall establish by rule the
18 minimum acceptable scores students shall attain on the college
19 readiness assessment to graduate from high school, to qualify
20 for admission to an institution of higher learning governed by
21 the state board of regents, and to qualify for state school
22 foundation aid pursuant to section 257.52.

23 Sec. 2. Section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2011,
24 is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

25 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (02) Full-time equivalent resident
26 pupils who attain the minimum acceptable score on the college
27 readiness assessment established pursuant to section 256.7,
28 subsection 31, prior to the pupil's senior year of high school
29 if the pupil is admitted to an Iowa community college or
30 institution of higher learning governed by the state board of
31 regents. A pupil who is admitted to an Iowa community college
32 or institution of higher learning governed by the state board
33 of regents shall not be included in the district's enrollment
34 for purposes of this chapter if the pupil was eligible to
35 receive a diploma with the class in which they were enrolled

1 prior to taking the college readiness assessment and the class
2 graduated in the previous school year.

3 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 257.52 High school scholarship
4 payments.

5 1. Each community college and each institution of higher
6 learning governed by the state board of regents that admits a
7 person who prior to the person's senior year of high school
8 attained at least the minimum acceptable score on the college
9 readiness assessment established by the state board in
10 accordance with section 256.7, subsection 31, for purposes of
11 qualifying for state school foundation aid shall, if the person
12 is enrolled in a school district and included in a school
13 district's actual enrollment in accordance with section 257.6,
14 notify the department of management of the admission and the
15 name of the school district in which the student is enrolled.

16 2. The department of management shall deduct from the
17 amounts calculated for state school foundation aid for each
18 school district the amount generated by each pupil pursuant to
19 section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a", subparagraph (02)
20 for each school district from the state aid due to the district
21 pursuant to this chapter and shall pay the amounts to the Iowa
22 community college or institution of higher learning governed
23 by the state board of regents in which the person is admitted
24 pursuant to subsection 1 on a monthly basis from September
25 15 through June 15 during each school year. The community
26 college or institution paid pursuant to this subsection shall
27 reduce the tuition charged to a person admitted as a student
28 pursuant to subsection 1 by an amount equivalent to the amount
29 paid to the community college or institution pursuant to this
30 subsection. The department of management shall notify each
31 school district of the amount of state aid deducted for these
32 purposes and the balance of state aid shall be paid to the
33 district.

34 Sec. 4. Section 262.9, subsection 3, Code 2011, is amended
35 to read as follows:

1 3. Make rules for admission to and for the government of
2 said institutions, not inconsistent with law. The rules shall
3 provide for the admission of students who attained at least the
4 minimum acceptable score on the college readiness assessment
5 established by the state board in accordance with section
6 256.7, subsection 31, and who qualified for state school
7 foundation aid pursuant to section 257.52.

8 Sec. 5. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
9 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
10 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
11 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
12 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
13 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
14 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
15 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
16 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
17 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
18 districts.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill directs the state board of education to require
21 school districts to administer a college readiness assessment,
22 which students must successfully pass as a condition of
23 graduation, and provides for college admission at regents
24 universities and for the payment of school foundation aid
25 funding to community colleges and regents universities on
26 behalf of certain students who attain a minimum acceptable
27 score on the assessment prior to their 12th grade of high
28 school.

29 The bill requires the state board of education to adopt
30 rules requiring school districts to administer a college
31 readiness assessment to secondary students at least annually,
32 beginning not later than the 2014-2015 school year. The rules
33 shall provide for alternative pathways to graduation and for a
34 timeline for the administration of the assessment, and shall
35 require school districts to administer the assessment to

1 students attending accredited nonpublic schools located within
2 the school district and students receiving competent private
3 instruction if a student and the student's parent or guardian
4 submit a written request to a school district. A school
5 district may charge a student a fee which shall not exceed the
6 actual cost of the assessment. The board must establish by
7 rule the minimum acceptable scores students shall attain.

8 The bill establishes that full-time equivalent resident
9 pupils who attain the minimum acceptable score prior to their
10 senior year of high school and who are admitted to an Iowa
11 community college or regents university shall be counted in a
12 school district's actual enrollment unless such a pupil was
13 eligible to receive a diploma with the class in which they were
14 enrolled prior to taking the college readiness assessment and
15 the class graduated in the previous school year.

16 Each community college and regents university that admits
17 a person who prior to the person's senior year attained at
18 least the minimum acceptable score on the college readiness
19 assessment shall notify the department of management of the
20 admission and the name of the school district in which the
21 student is enrolled. The department of management shall deduct
22 from the amounts calculated for state school foundation aid for
23 each school district the amount generated by such person and
24 shall pay the amounts to the Iowa community college or regents
25 university in which the person is admitted, and the community
26 college or institution shall reduce the tuition charged to the
27 person by an equivalent amount.

28 The bill also directs the state board of regents to make
29 rules for admission that provide for the admission of students
30 who attained at least the minimum acceptable score on the
31 college readiness assessment and who qualified for state school
32 foundation aid.